

GOOD REASONS TO CLEAN



REMINDER! Appliances such as water heaters, washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, air conditioners, freezers and dehumidifiers are accepted at the curb. Limit two per house. You do not need to call ahead for pickup.

SPRING 2006 CURBSIDE CLEANUP COLLECTION DATES

If you live:	And regular trash day is:	2006 Curbside pickup is Saturday:
East of Portland	Monday	April 8
Portland to Penn	Tuesday	April 22
Penn to France	Wednesday	April 29
France to Normandale	Thursday	May 6
West of Normandale	Friday	May 20

2006 CITYWIDE GARAGE SALES

HUMAN SERVICES PRESENTS THE 7TH Annual Citywide Garage Sales to be held Thursday - Saturday, June 1 - 3. Watch for more details in the April Briefing. For more information, call Creekside Community Center at 952-563-4957 V/TTY.



HURDLES OVERCOME ANSWERS TO YOUR RECYCLING DILEMMAS

DON'T LET THESE STUMBLING BLOCKS GET IN THE WAY OF CONSERVING OUR PRECIOUS natural resources.

My container is full.
Good job recycling! Call your waste hauler who can provide you with extra containers.

There's no room in my house for recyclables.
Try placing a recycling container next to your trash can. Store paper out of sight by using a decorative basket for newspapers, magazines and mixed mail.

I don't have enough recyclables to bother.
Many of us focus on recycling in the kitchen but forget about products

consumed in laundry rooms, bathrooms and garages, including detergent, shampoo and lotion bottles, toilet paper cores, tissue boxes, scrap metal, etc.

Recycling takes too much time.
Recycling is now easier than ever. You don't have to remove labels or take the plastic windows out of envelopes. Glass, plastic or metal containers can all be mixed together – no sorting! Newspaper, including the glossy ads, and mixed mail can also be placed in a paper bag together.
Source: Anoka County Integrated Waste Management.



PLANT A TREE ON YOUR LOT CITY TREE SALE THIS SPRING

EACH YEAR, THE CITY PLANTS TREES in parks and other public areas to ensure that Bloomington's urban forest continues to be one of the community's many treasures. Most of the 2,250 diseased elm and oak trees marked for removal last year were located on residential lots. The City has planted more than 1,000 trees over the last few years. To increase the number of trees on private properties, Park Maintenance will hold a public tree sale.

Based on last year's sales of just over 200 trees, approximately 220 trees will be for sale this spring. Quantity and species of trees available include: 80 Autumn Blaze Maples; 80 Northwoods Red Maples; 20 Hackberries; 20 Bur Oaks and 20 Swamp White Oaks. Orders will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

To purchase a tree, fill out the form to the right and mail it, along with a check payable to the "City of Bloomington." To download the form, visit the City's Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us, keywords: Tree sale.



Earth Action Heroes protect the earth. Whether it's saving energy or guarding Bloomington's precious natural resources, these individuals are making a difference. Here are your neighbors in action ...



A NATURAL MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENT is reflected in the landscape surrounding Bloomington Civic Plaza. Native grasses, black-eyed Susans, Norway pines, quaking aspens, a wetland and pond create a park for visitors to enjoy. One unique planting around the building is the Northblue Blueberries.

A group of City of Bloomington employees who love to garden took interest in the blueberries growing outside their windows. They are providing some extra care so that the plants will continue to bear fruit. They call themselves Friends of the Blueberries, but the group is already covering more ground.

The volunteers met after work last fall to plant almost 250 native species, including wild bergamot, blue flag iris, New England aster and cardinal flower, in a wet area on Civic Plaza's east side where shrubs had difficulty growing. Plants native to Minnesota are hardier, often take less maintenance and rarely require any pesticides or fertilizers.

Housing and Redevelopment Authority's Chele Kovacevick hopes the group's work will encourage others with talents and interests to make their own contributions to the community.

"Our work is about showing pride in the place where we spend a large part of our day," Kovacevick said. "Besides, it'll be fun to see what comes up this spring."

When the City Council decided to locate Civic Plaza at the corner of 98th Street

EARTH ACTION HEROES FRIENDS OF THE BLUEBERRIES

Friends of the Blueberries, Dave Hanson, Cyndi Osberg, Shannon Rohr, Laima Dingley, Adrienne O'Neal, Elizabeth Shevi and Chele Kovacevick show off their green thumbs in the photo above.

and Old Shakopee Road, one of the goals was that the revitalized parcel would create a gateway to the community. Park Maintenance's Dave Hanson, whose job is to maintain Civic Plaza, said he takes pride in ensuring that the grounds look their best.

"People may never take the time to go in the building, but many drive by everyday and the impression they get is important," Hanson said. "This group is doing a great job and it can only get better."

Environmental Health Program Coordinator Shannon Rohr knows the importance of maintaining property appearance. She enforces the City's nuisance ordinance that helps keep Bloomington's residential neighborhoods looking good. Rohr said that when City property looks its best, it sets an example for the whole community.

"The City's resources are limited and we are just providing care that goes above and beyond the normal maintenance of the facility," Rohr said. "If we volunteer by doing what we enjoy, that is a bonus."

TREE ORDER FORM

Bloomington residents only. Trees are bare root, one-and-a-quarter to two inches in diameter.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Fill in number of each tree type desired. Maximum 5 trees total per household, \$50 each. Check must accompany order.

____ Swamp White Oak ____ Bur Oak ____ Hackberry
____ Northwoods Rubrum (Red) Maple ____ Autumn Blaze Maple
Total trees ____ X \$50 ea. = \$ ____ Total cost

Pick up trees at 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road on Saturday, May 6, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Send check and form to City of Bloomington, Park Maintenance, 1800 W. Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3027.